

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/713,909

Examiner

Laura Edwards

Applicant(s)

GIULIANO ET AL.

Art Unit

1734

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed as of 12/10/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 25-37.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 23 January 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


LAURA EDWARDS
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Art Unit: 1734

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Raymond Scott on 1/14/05.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the claims:

In claim 37, line 3, "heads" has been changed to --head--.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 25-31 are allowable because there is no teaching or suggestion in the prior art of an atomizer for electrostatic coating of workpieces comprising the combination of an outer housing formed of an insulating material including a longitudinal axis, an end portion and an axial tube extending through the end portion receiving conductive coating material; a cone-shaped spray head rotatably supported by said housing in said longitudinal axis opposite said tube; a ring part formed of an insulating material surrounding the housing in engagement with the housing preventing overspray of coating material from being received between the ring part and said housing having a generally radial end portion spaced rearwardly from said end portion of the housing; and an electrode arrangement embedded in said ring part connected to a high voltage supply having an end extending through the generally radial end of the ring part concentric with the spray head and spaced rearwardly from said end portion of said housing and

Art Unit: 1734

the spray head externally charging the conductive coating sprayed by the spray head through ionization of air surrounding the spray head.

Claims 32-37 are allowable because there is no teaching or suggestion in the prior art of an atomizer for electrostatic coating of workpieces comprising the combination of an outer housing formed of an insulating material including a longitudinal axis, an end portion and an axial tube extending through the end portion receiving conductive coating material; a cone-shaped spray head rotatably supported by said housing in the longitudinal axis opposite the spray head; a ring part formed of an insulating material surrounding the housing in engagement with the housing preventing overspray of coating material from being received between the ring part and the housing having a generally radial end portion spaced rearwardly from said end portion of said housing; and a plurality of equally circumferentially spaced needle-shaped electrodes embedded in the ring part, each having a tip portion extending through the generally radial end portion of the ring part concentric with said spray head and spaced rearwardly from the end portion of said housing and the spray head connected to a high voltage supply externally charging coating materials sprayed by the spray head by ionization of air surrounding the housing.

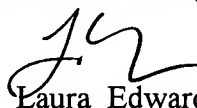
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Art Unit: 1734

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Laura Edwards whose telephone number is (571) 272-1227. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chris Fiorilla can be reached on (571) 272-1187. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Laura Edwards
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1734

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January 14, 2005